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Although some of his supporters believe he doesn't really want the job, George Bush will take the oath of office this week as director of the CIA.

Bush has made it clear that despite the furor which has surrounded the spy agency for the past year, no major changes are needed in the way the CIA does its work.

The personable and urbane former GOP national chairman may have to spend much of his time in the next few weeks getting to know the highly classified details of the agency President Ford picked him to head. He has no previous background in intelligence work.

Bush accepted the appointment, although it seems to contain more risks than benefits for his own career. The post already has cost Bush a shot at the Republican vice presidential nomination next year.

In a move that proved necessary to win the approval of the Senate Armed Services Committee last month, Ford removed Bush from consideration for a spot on the GOP ticket. Bush had made no secret of his interest in that job.

THERE IS SOME secrecy about what else the job may have cost Bush. The Armed Services Committee's report said the appointee will be required to dispose of within 30 days "securities of certain companies which are variously related to U.S. intelligence activities."

What are those firms? The committee didn't say and the CIA never talks about its relations with the business community.

The Senate yesterday confirmed, by a 63-27 vote, Bush's appointment to succeed William E. Colby. The White House said he probably would take office before the end of the week.

Sen. Charles McC. Mathias, R-Md., said he "sensed" that Bush had no real ambition to become the nation's chief spy. Mathias said he believed Bush took

the job in "response to a presidential draft."

Critics of the Bush appointment have said that he scarcely will have time to learn the job in the next year. Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., predicted that if the next president is a Democrat, he certainly will ask Bush to resign as one of his first official acts next January.

BUT MATHIAS SAID that with the intelligence agency in turmoil, the most important thing now was to provide it with a permanent head. He said the CIA might not have been able to survive a months-long search for another director if Bush had been rejected by the Senate.

Former President Richard Nixon drafted Bush in early 1973 to head the Republican National Committee. The Nixon administration was soon engulfed in the Watergate scandal, but Bush kept the full force of the scandal away from the party.

Shortly after Ford took office Aug. 9, 1974, he named Bush to be U.S. envoy to China, a post he held until Ford decided that he needed Bush's public-relations talents much closer to home.

A few hours before Bush was confirmed a former CIA director, Richard Helms, was telling the Senate Government Operations Committee that the lot of the CIA director is often not a happy one.

Members of Congress were reluctant to share the responsibility for CIA "dirty tricks" Helms said. And he seemed to agree that presidents were sometimes willing to leave the CIA director holding the bag.

"THERE WERE times when I felt quite lonely — that I could not share more of my problems with them (members of Congress) on a continuing basis," Helms said.

Asked what a CIA director could do if ordered by a president to commit an illegal act, Helms said there were really only two choices — go along or resign.

## Bush Cleared To Assume CIA Helm This Week

"And if he goes along he may be left holding the bag and being pilloried in the press," Sen. Abraham Ribicoff, D-Conn., said.

"That can happen," Helms responded.

Helms was called as a witness in the committee's hearings on proposed reforms in the way Congress supervises the CIA and other intelligence agencies. The lawmakers were mostly sympathetic in their treatment of Helms, who was appointed U.S. ambassador to Iran in 1973 after Nixon removed him from the CIA post.

When a reporter asked Helms after the hearing if he had been informed by the Justice Department that he was the target of a criminal investigation, the ambassador glowered, turned on his heel and walked away without a word.

THE SENATE debate on Bush's nomination swirled around the question of whether a former national party chairman should be considered to head the CIA.

All four senators from Maryland and Virginia voted to confirm the nomination.